



**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

I hereby certify that on December 19, 2001, this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

Trudi Thompson  
Trudi Thompson

**PATENT**

Applicant: Cress et al.

Serial No.: 09/424,940

Filed: March 7, 2000

Title: IMMUNOASSAY FOR THE  
DETECTION OF CANCER

Examiner: G.B. Nickol

Group Art Unit: 1642

Atty Docket No.: 212662-11

#11/A  
JW  
2/21/02

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION**

**RECEIVED**

FEB 04 2002

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Dear Sir:

Responsive to the Office Action mailed June 19, 2001, Applicants respond as follows.

Claims 1-21 are pending in the present application. Claims 6, 7 and 11-21 have been withdrawn from consideration by the Applicants' election to prosecute claims 1-5 and 8-10. Claims 1-5 and 8-10 stand rejected.

**Amendment to Reflect Priority Status**

Please amend page 1 of the specification as follows:

This application claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/048,405, entitled "IMMUNOASSAY FOR THE DETECTION OF CANCER," filed on June 3, 1997 (now abandoned), by Ngo et al., and U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/060,088 entitled "IMMUNOASSAY FOR THE DETECTION OF CANCER," filed on September 26, 1997 (now abandoned), by Ngo et al., which are incorporated by reference herein.

**In the Specification**

Please make the following change

At page 11 at line 26:

In one embodiment of the present invention, the method measures proteolytic degradation of fibrinogen with minimal interference from intact fibrinogen. In this

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